

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 364, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. PATRICIA DOLLY AS ZETA PHI BETA'S LAMBDA RHO ZETA CHAPTER 2011 WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Patricia Dolly who is being honored as the 2011 Woman of the Year by the Lambda Rho Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta for her many accomplishments in the community.

Dr. Dolly boasts an impressive resume of both professional and volunteer accomplishments over the breadth of her career. In her current role as President of Oakland Community College's (OCC) Auburn Hills campus, she has invested considerable resources into working with local school districts to bring the Achieving the Dream program to her campus. This program offers students in nearby school districts the opportunity to earn up to 35 college credit hours before graduating high school, giving them a competitive advantage as they seek higher education. During her tenure, Dr. Dolly has continued her successful track record of grant writing, which has resulted in 19 grants and over \$11.7 million brought in to the institutions where she has worked. Included in this accomplishment is a \$1.9 million grant she secured from the U.S. Department of Labor to fund new equipment, implement additional job training for 400 employees, curriculum development for OCC's nanotechnology program and faculty, which has improved the quality of the education of the over 8,000 students who walk through the doors of OCC's Auburn Hills campus each semester.

As a leader, Dr. Dolly has been involved in a number of community focused volunteer programs. In addition to her work at OCC, Dr. Dolly also serves as chairperson of the Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce; working to provide local businesses the tools they need to thrive and become engaged participants within their community. Dr. Dolly also serves on the Board of Directors for Oakland Family Services providing crucial support to at-risk youth and families. As an ever ready advocate, Dr. Dolly has devoted significant energy and focus to advancing the principles of diversity and inclusion in the workplace, a topic on which she has written several papers and spoken at many events.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Dr. Dolly's profound impact on the communities she has served. Her commitment to providing leadership and service are outstanding virtues which have impacted the lives of so many. I wish her many

years of continued service to the community and many great family moments to come.

HONORING THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the people of the Republic of Azerbaijan, a strong strategic partner and ally of the United States, and congratulate them on celebrating their Republic Day on May 28. As co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Turkey, I have been particularly interested in the development of nations in the Middle East and Central Asia.

On May 28, 1920, Azerbaijan declared its independence from the rapidly disintegrating Russian Empire. In doing so, Azerbaijan not only adopted a democratic form of government, but it also granted women the right to vote and embraced many other integral cornerstones of democracy.

Sadly, their independence was cut tragically short when the Soviet Union invaded the nation in 1920 and ended Azerbaijan's dream of democracy in the 20th Century. That dream re-emerged in 1991 with the disintegration of the Soviet Union, and Azerbaijan declared its independence yet again and rejoined the world's community of democratic Nations. Having lived under Soviet rule, the people of Azerbaijan appreciate their role in a democratic civil society.

Azerbaijan's geographical location has made it a crossroads for interaction between a number of diverse nations and religious traditions. This position has given it a unique ability to serve as a cultural and political bridge between traditionally Western and Eastern viewpoints. It also has a proud history of influential writers and artists, and its people have made a tremendous impact on the rich cultural framework of the South Caucasus region.

I congratulate the people of Azerbaijan, and commend them on their continued efforts and commitment to build a strong and vibrant democracy in the critically important region of the South Caucasus.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE POMPEO

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Mr. POMPEO. Mr. Speaker, on May 26th, I missed rollcall vote No. 376 because I was in Kansas for a funeral.

Rollcall No. 376 was a vote on the Small Business Additional Temporary Extension Act of 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted, "yes."

DON'T DELAY REPEAL OF "DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL"

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, last year, the House of Representatives approved historic legislation that repealed the Defense Department policy known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." For too long, this discriminatory policy forced many patriotic Americans who wanted to serve their nation to decide against military service, lie about their sexual orientation, or leave the military against their will. It was shameful that Don't Ask, Don't Tell was allowed to continue for so many years, and it gave me tremendous pride to support the policy's repeal last year.

I am very disappointed that H.R. 1540, the Fiscal Year 2012 National Defense Authorization Act, included section 533, which would add a further step on the path to final repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. It requires that each of the Armed Forces service chiefs approve repeal. While I believe that the input of the military is critical to a smooth transition to open military service, the current process that is already underway to repeal Don't Ask, Don't Tell includes significant input from the uniformed military personnel and Defense Department leadership. In fact, under current law, the policy only ends 60 days after the President, Secretary of Defense, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff approve a Defense Department report confirming that the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell will not harm military readiness. Section 533 is nothing more than an attempt to delay final repeal.

I supported final passage of H.R. 1540 because I strongly believe that the overwhelming majority of the provisions and policies in the legislation are good for our men and women in uniform and for the national security of the United States. However, I oppose the inclusion of section 533 or any other provision to delay the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell in a final conference report on the Fiscal Year 2012 Defense Authorization Act. At a time of global military engagement, we simply cannot afford to tell patriotic men and women that they are unfit to serve because of who they love.

NATIONAL CRITICAL CARE
AWARENESS AND RECOGNITION
MONTH

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of National Critical Care Awareness and Recognition Month and applaud the work of the nation's critical care medical professionals, including the doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists and pharmacists, among others, who provide care to the nearly five million Americans admitted into traditional, surgical, pediatric or neo-natal intensive care units each year. These patients require a specialized level of care that is technology-intensive, requires continuous monitoring, and involves a high use of tests, medications and procedures.